

IN THE CLAIMS

1-23. Cancelled

24. (twice amended) ~~The method of Claim 23~~ A method of producing a transformed plant with a modified level of zeaxanthin comprising growing a plant transformed with a construct comprising, in the order of transcription, a plant transcription initiation region, a DNA sequence encoding a plant violaxanthin de-epoxidase, and a transcriptional termination region, wherein said promoter sequence is heterologous to said DNA sequence and wherein the DNA sequence encoding a plant violaxanthin de-epoxidase is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO:3, and SEQ ID NO:5.

25. (currently amended) A plant produced by the method of Claim 24 ~~23~~.

26. (cancelled)